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# CoRoT-22 b: a validated $4.9 R_{\oplus}$ exoplanet in 10-day orbit $\star\ddagger$

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**ABSTRACT**

The CoRoT satellite has provided high-precision photometric light curves for more than 163,000 stars and found several hundreds of transiting systems compatible with a planetary scenario. If ground-based velocimetric observations are the best way to identify the actual planets among many possible configurations of eclipsing binary systems, recent transit surveys have shown that it is not always within reach of the radial-velocity detection limits. In this paper, we present a transiting exoplanet candidate discovered by CoRoT whose nature cannot be established from ground-based observations, and where extensive analyses are used to validate the planet scenario. They are based on observing constraints from radial-velocity spectroscopy, adaptive optics imaging and the CoRoT transit shape, as well as from priors on stellar populations, planet and multiple stellar systems frequency. We use the fully Bayesian approach developed in the PASTIS analysis software, and conclude that the planet scenario is at least 1400 times more probable than any other false positive scenario. The primary star is a metallic solar-like dwarf, with  $M_s = 1.099 \pm 0.049 M_\odot$  and  $R_s = 1.136^{+0.038}_{-0.090} R_\odot$ . The validated planet has a radius of  $R_p = 4.88^{+0.17}_{-0.39} R_\oplus$  and mass less than  $49 M_\oplus$ . Its mean density is smaller than  $2.56 \text{ g.cm}^{-3}$  and orbital period is  $9.7566 \pm 0.0012$  days. This object, called CoRoT-22 b, adds to a large number of validated Kepler planets. These planets do not have a proper measurement of the mass but allow statistical characterization of exoplanets population.

**Key words:** stars: planetary systems - techniques: photometry - techniques: radial velocities - techniques: spectroscopic

**1 INTRODUCTION**

Photometry from space is currently the most sensitive method to detect small-size planets with orbital periods less than a year. Twin super-earths CoRoT-7 b, Kepler-10 b and 55 Cnc e were the first objects in this category, and were detected each by a different space-based instrument (CoRoT, *Kepler*, MOST/Spitzer, respectively, see Léger et al 2009; Batalha et al 2011; Winn et al 2011; Demory et al 2011). Although it was possible for the three examples cited above, measuring the mass of such small planets is in general difficult, requiring spectrographs of extreme radial-velocity precision. When the parent star is faint, as often for transiting systems, this mass characterization goes beyond the detection threshold. In such cases, one has to rely on alternative solutions to establish the transiting body as a planet. One is the detection of transit timing variations when several planets orbit the same star, as used for the Kepler-9 (Holman et al 2010) and Kepler-11 (Lissauer et al 2011) multiple systems. But this requires specific configurations that will not occur evenly in all systems. The next alternative is to examine and reject all other possible scenarios, with the aid eventually of additional observational constraints and intensive simulations. The *Kepler* candidates (Borucki et al 2011) are in majority Neptune-like or super-earths, orbit stars generally fainter than  $V=14$  with periods up to several months. There is only a small part of these for which high-precision radial-velocity measurements will allow the mass characterization. Undiluted binaries are easily rejected, but all configurations involving three bodies are more difficult to exclude. The *Kepler* team is making use of the BLENDER analysis tool (e.g., Torres et al (2005, 2011); Fressin et al (2011)) for some of individual candidates, by including a comparison of data with models.

The outputs are the relative probability that a given system corresponds to a transiting planet or to a variety of other eclipsing system configurations. In the case of systems where hypothesis priors dominate, a statistical analysis not involving the data is also used with success (Lissauer et al 2014). A mixture of both approaches (simplified data/model comparison and extended hypothesis priors from a model of the Galaxy) has also been provided for all *Kepler* candidates by Morton (2012), giving an homogeneous look at the candidate validation process. The observational constraints that are to be used in such cases are: the light curve and transit shape, the centroid time series (for *Kepler* only), the high-resolution ground-based images of the star's vicinity, the radial-velocity (RV) times series, and the bisector-RV dependency.

In this paper, we present one such system discovered by CoRoT (Auvergne et al 2009; Moutou et al 2013). CoRoT-22 b is a transiting candidate around a Sun-like star, for which a 9.75-day period transit has been detected by CoRoT in 2008. Intensive RV observations with HARPS and HIRES, adaptive-optics imaging with NACO and heavy false-positive simulations using PASTIS (Díaz et al 2014) have been performed in order to solve the system's nature.

**2 OBSERVATIONS****2.1 CoRoT**

CoRoT-22 is the star referenced as 2MASS 18424010 + 0613088 (Table 1). CoRoT observations<sup>1</sup> lasted from Julian date JD = 2454572.4656 (15 April 2008) to 2454717.4505 (7 September 2008), that is 145 days with a temporal bin of 32 seconds. The light curve consists of 336837 data points with a duty cycle of 87%. Three light curves are extracted by the CoRoT pipeline, due to a low-dispersion prism in the light path. They correspond to the red,

\* The CoRoT space mission, launched on December 27th 2006, has been developed and is operated by CNES, with the contribution of Austria, Belgium, Brazil, ESA (RSSD and Science Program), Germany, Spain.

† Based on observations made with the HARPS instrument on the ESO 3.6 m telescope at La Silla (Chile), under the GTO program ID 072.C-0488 and the regular programs: 085.C-0019, 087.C-0831 and 089.C-0732.

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<sup>1</sup> The data are publicly available on the CoRoT archive at <http://idoc-corot.ias.u-psud.fr>

[h]

**Table 1.** IDs, coordinates and magnitudes.

CoRoT window ID	LRc02-E1-0591	
CoRoT ID	105819653	
USNO-A2 ID	0900 – 13496507	
2MASS ID	18424010 + 0613088	
Coordinates		
RA (J2000)	18h42m40.12s	
Dec (J2000)	+06° 13'9.30"	
Magnitudes		
Filter	Mag	Error
B <sup>a</sup>	14.740	0.041
V <sup>a</sup>	13.944	0.083
g <sup>a</sup>	14.299	0.041
r <sup>a</sup>	13.698	0.084
i <sup>a</sup>	13.487	0.141
J <sup>b</sup>	12.414	0.027
H <sup>b</sup>	12.099	0.027
Ks <sup>b</sup>	11.988	0.026
W1 <sup>c</sup>	11.851	0.026
W2 <sup>c</sup>	11.917	0.026

<sup>a</sup> from APASS catalog (<http://www.aavso.org/apass>).<sup>b</sup> from 2MASS catalog (Skrutskie et al 2006).<sup>c</sup> from WISE catalog (Wright et al 2010).

green and blue part of the stellar spectral energy distribution. The spatial aperture of each channel may also be differentially affected by contamination from neighbour stars. An additional white light curve is extracted, summing all the flux in the photometric aperture.

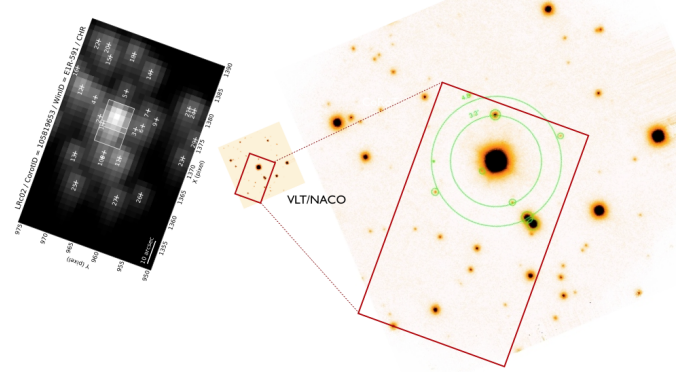
A series of 0.2% deep transits of periodicity 9.75 days is detected with  $43\sigma$  significance in the white light curve. To obtain clean colored light curves for modeling (Section 3), we removed the transits and then reproduced the low frequency variations of the residuals using a Savitzky-Golay smoothing filter. The resulting smoothed light curve was used to normalize the original light curve, removing the star's non-periodic activity signature and non-corrected instrumental effects. Finally, outliers were removed with a 3- $\sigma$  clipping performed on the folded transit.

Figure 1 shows the stellar neighborhood of CoRoT-22 and the size and position of the CoRoT aperture mask. The flux arising from neighbor stars and the knowledge of the in-flight PSF allow to precisely estimate the contamination factor in all three chromatic channels (Bordé et al 2010). The derived values for the rate of flux contamination are  $1.9 \pm 0.5$  % for the white channel. Contamination is larger in blue ( $6.2 \pm 1.4$  %), moderate in green ( $4.1 \pm 1.3$  %) and low in red ( $1.0 \pm 0.3$  %), with an expected impact on the transit depths.

## 2.2 Ground-based photometry

Imaging sequences from ground-based telescopes have been obtained for confirming the occurrence of the transit on the V=13.9 magnitude target (Deeg et al 2009). We used the IAC 80-cm telescope in Tenerife and the 1.2 m telescope Euler at La Silla to discard any source of photometric variation at the expected ephemeris in the neighborhood of the target.

We conducted high-resolution, high-contrast observations us-



**Figure 1.** Left: Simulated image of the field surrounding the main target convolved by the PSF of CoRoT. Right: Field around the target CoRoT-22 in the *J* band as observed with VLT/NACO, with two zoom levels. The rectangle (white in the CoRoT image, red in the others) shows the aperture used for CoRoT photometry. The circles on the right image show the 3.3 and 4.8'' radius distance from the main target, where the main nearby contaminants are located (see Figure 2).

ing VLT/NACO<sup>2</sup> (Guenther et al 2013). First, a *J*-band off-transit image was obtained, on 28 August 2010. Several more contaminating stars were detected in the high-quality off-transit images down to magnitude difference  $\Delta J = 7$  compared to the main target. Within the CoRoT aperture mask, one additional star is detected, at 3.3'' distance from the main target. It is extremely faint ( $J \simeq 20$ ) and not detected in the optical images. Such star would have to get more than 200% fainter to cause the eclipse, and is excluded as false positive. Second, on-transit observations were performed with NACO on 7 October 2010. We performed aperture photometry with 0.4 arcsec radius aperture and did not detect changes larger than 5% for all stars within the CoRoT mask. We measured on-off variations of all stars within the aperture of CoRoT as well as the variation they should have to induce the observed  $\sim 0.2\%$  transit, assuming a constant color index from the *J* band to the optical band of CoRoT observations. No variation compatible at  $3\sigma$  with the expected one has been detected. This excludes all visible field star as the source of the transit, except the target itself.

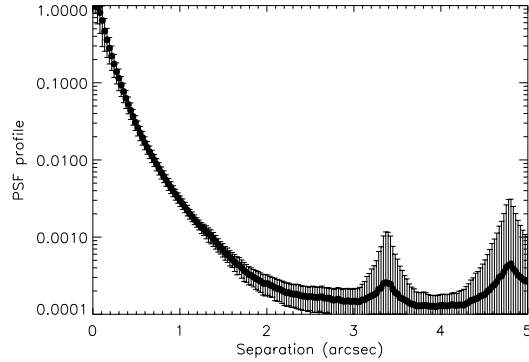
Figure 2 shows the PSF profile close to the target, averaged over azimuthal rings of one pixel radius. It shows the detected stars as bumps, e.g. at 3.3''. At shorter separation from the main target, we do not detect stars brighter than  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-2}$ ,  $3.3 \cdot 10^{-3}$ ,  $2.5 \cdot 10^{-4}$  times than the target flux at respectively 0.5, 1.0 and 2.0''. Such constraint (Figure 2) is used later for hypotheses prior calculations (section 3.2).

From this multi-instrument search, we conclude that no detected stellar contaminant inside the CoRoT aperture of CoRoT-22 produces a transit-like feature at the relevant time and depth, and thus resolved contaminating eclipsing binaries are safely ruled out.

## 2.3 Radial velocity

Three preliminary spectra were obtained with the OHP/SOPHIE spectrograph in August 2008<sup>3</sup>. They showed little variation in RV (less than 40 m/s with individual errors of 15 m/s), quickly excluding the undiluted binary scenario. We then secured 23 ESO-

<sup>2</sup> program ESO 285.C-5045<sup>3</sup> program PNP.MOUT



**Figure 2.** NACO PSF profile around CoRoT-22 estimated from the NACO out-of-transit data. Bumps at 3.3 and 4.8'' corresponds to contaminants depicted on Fig. 1.

3.6/HARPS<sup>4</sup> (Mayor et al 2003) measurements at La Silla, from September 2008 to August 2013. The RV are obtained by cross-correlating the spectra with a weighted numerical mask of G2 spectral type and by fitting the cross-correlation function with a Gaussian model. Individual errors with HARPS are on average 10 m/s and the RV span a range of 42 m/s, with a standard deviation of 11 m/s. Average signal-to-noise ratio of the spectra is 15. The bisector slope ranges from -66 to +32 m/s over the HARPS sequence with typical errors of 20 m/s. Figure 3 shows the bisector span behavior as a function of RV, and as a function of the orbital phase. There is no correlation between the RV and the profile distortion. The non-detection of a second component in the cross-correlation function and the bisector behavior already put some constraints by excluding a bright blended star.

In addition, 12 measurements were collected from June 2010 to July 2011 with the Keck1/HIRES spectrograph<sup>5</sup> as part of the NASA key science project in support of the CoRoT mission. HIRES was used with the red cross-disperser, the 0.861'' wide slit and the I<sub>2</sub>-cell. The RV were derived with the *Austral* Doppler code (Endl et al 2000). Table 2 lists the RV obtained with the three spectrographs. The RV time series shows no significant variation at the expected CoRoT ephemeris (Fig. 4, top panel).

## 2.4 Spectroscopic parameters

From multicolor photometric observations, we estimated that CoRoT-22 is of solar type and on the main sequence, with a best-fit template star of G3V type and low reddening ( $E_{(B-V)}$  of 0.05). Spectroscopic observations (HARPS and HIRES, section 2.3) confirmed this result and were used to get accurate determination of stellar parameters. Using VWA (Bruntt et al 2010), we derive: an effective temperature of  $5780 \text{ K} \pm 100 \text{ K}$ , a surface gravity of  $4.30 \pm 0.10$  and total metallicity  $0.21 \pm 0.10 \text{ dex}$ , with a microturbulence velocity of  $0.8 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ .

We estimate the stars' projected rotational velocity of  $4.0 \pm 1.5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . The rotation period could be of the order of 16 days if the stellar rotation axis is perpendicular to the line of sight. There is no sign for chromospheric activity in the CaII H and K lines. The

**Table 2.** Radial velocities, and bisector span.

BJD-2400000. days	RV km s <sup>-1</sup>	$\sigma_{RV}$ km s <sup>-1</sup>	Span km s <sup>-1</sup>	Instrument
54705.36548	31.943	0.021	-0.0276	SOPHIE
54706.39550	31.918	0.015	-0.0761	SOPHIE
55006.47237	31.898	0.013	-0.0351	SOPHIE
55366.83337	0.9622	0.0069		HIRES
55367.04615	0.9617	0.0071		HIRES
55367.81985	0.9669	0.0069		HIRES
55368.10482	0.9764	0.0065		HIRES
55368.81888	0.9567	0.0084		HIRES
55369.07215	0.9659	0.0054		HIRES
55429.75227	0.9636	0.0099		HIRES
55430.76439	0.956	0.011		HIRES
55430.97373	0.9824	0.0082		HIRES
55435.75115	0.9827	0.0050		HIRES
55766.85109	0.9563	0.0041		HIRES
55767.95179	0.9439	0.0043		HIRES
54734.49357	31.8612	0.0068	-0.0182	HARPS
54742.54568	31.896	0.015	-0.0045	HARPS
54748.52255	31.8863	0.0080	-0.0312	HARPS
55020.75544	31.879	0.014	0.0322	HARPS
55023.70810	31.905	0.017	-0.0469	HARPS
55323.86186	31.8829	0.0053	-0.0361	HARPS
55324.81150	31.900	0.012	-0.0259	HARPS
55325.85872	31.8878	0.0087	-0.0051	HARPS
55327.86799	31.8998	0.0079	-0.0364	HARPS
55328.85383	31.9097	0.0083	-0.0197	HARPS
55338.83366	31.887	0.013	-0.0464	HARPS
55339.83851	31.898	0.010	-0.0025	HARPS
55351.67286	31.906	0.013	0.0148	HARPS
55353.69072	31.8977	0.0088	-0.0199	HARPS
55354.67423	31.880	0.011	-0.0273	HARPS
55359.65810	31.866	0.023	-0.0663	HARPS
55390.71984	31.880	0.011	-0.0069	HARPS
55391.69522	31.868	0.013	-0.0217	HARPS
55426.54670	31.885	0.011	0.0065	HARPS
55805.53299	31.918	0.011	-0.0271	HARPS
56472.81223	31.890	0.022	-0.0203	HARPS
56511.59174	31.897	0.011	0.0085	HARPS
56518.53339	31.889	0.011	-0.0048	HARPS

Lithium line at 607 nm is clearly detected with an abundance of 2.54. We excluded the pre-main sequence solutions with an age 20 – 50 Myr, which is conflicting with the absence of activity and the low stellar rotation.

## 3 PASTIS ANALYSIS

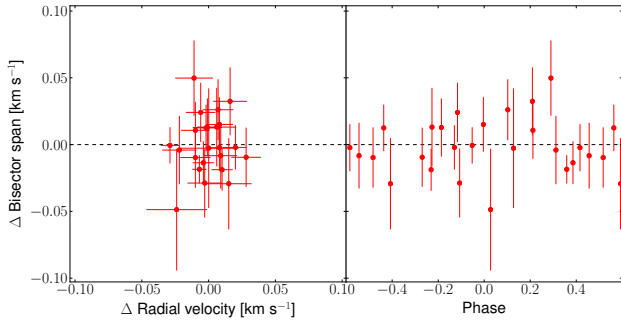
Since the RV data presented above do not reveal a clear signal in phase with the transiting candidate, its planetary nature has to be confirmed by other means. Planet validation is a technique that compares the posterior probability of the planetary hypothesis against that of all possible false positive hypotheses. The ratio of the posterior probabilities between two competing hypotheses ( $H_i$  and  $H_j$ ) is called the odds ratio:

$$O_{ij} = \frac{p(H_i|D, I)}{p(H_j|D, I)} = \frac{p(H_i|I)}{p(H_j|I)} \cdot \frac{p(D|H_i, I)}{p(D|H_j, I)}, \quad (1)$$

where  $D$  represents the data, and  $I$  is the prior information available. The first term on the right-hand side of the equation is called

<sup>4</sup> ESO programs 072.C-0488, 083.C-0186 and 184.C-0639

<sup>5</sup> Keck programs : N035Hr, N143Hr 260 and N095Hr



**Figure 3.** HARPS bisector as a function of radial velocity (left panel) and as a function of orbital phase (right panel).

the hypotheses priors ratio, or prior odds, and depends exclusively on  $I$ . The second term is called the Bayes factor. All the support the data provide to a given hypothesis is contained in the Bayesian evidence  $p(D|H_i, I)$ . The Bayes factor is simply the ratio of evidences for the two competing hypotheses. The computation of the likelihood is done with the following assumptions: i) the data follow a normal distribution; ii) the datasets are independent.

We computed the odds ratio between the planet hypothesis and four false positive hypotheses using the Planet Analysis and Small Transit Investigation Software (PASTIS, Díaz et al 2014). We refer the reader to this paper for more details on the method, and performance analyses. The scenarios we considered are: i) diluted eclipsing binary (BEB), where the eclipsing binary is aligned by chance with the target, ii) diluted transiting planet (BTP), where a transiting planet orbits a star aligned by chance with the target, iii) planet in binary (PiB), where the target is a (non-eclipsing) binary and the planet orbits one component of the system, and iv) hierarchical triple system (TRIPLE), where the main target is composed by three stars, two of which being eclipsing. Scenarios where the observed transit is the secondary eclipse of a diluted binary are also automatically considered by PASTIS. The false positives hypotheses involving periods twice the nominal transit period poorly fit the data and are no longer considered.

**Data:** The observational data used are all RV measurements (Table 2), CoRoT red, green, blue, and total light curves (Section 2), and the magnitudes in filters as listed in Table 1. The RV and the light curves are fitted in time to propagate the error on the ephemerides to the rest of parameters.

**Stellar models:** As stellar models we used the Dartmouth stellar tracks (Dotter et al 2008), the PHOENIX/BT-Settl stellar atmosphere models (Allard, Homeier and Freytag 2012), together with the limb-darkening coefficients from the tables by Claret & Bloemen (2011) computed for CoRoT. For the CoRoT red, green, and blue colors, the limb-darkening coefficients are interpolated from the limb-darkening coefficients for Sloan filters taking into account the overlap with a given CoRoT band and the star emission. The light curves were computed using the EBOP code (Nelson & Davies 1972; Etzel 1981; Popper & Etzel 1981) extracted from the JKTEBOP package (Southworth 2011). As the wavelength range covered by each CoRoT band changes from one target to another, we multiply the SED modeled in each MCMC step by the CoRoT full instrument response. Then we divided this spectrum in three bands (red, green and blue) to match the relative flux contribution in the light curve, after correcting the flux for the

contamination (as given in Section 2).

The following free parameters are common to all hypotheses: i) transit ephemeris; ii) spectrographs offsets; iii) spectrographs, light curves, and SED systematic white noise amplitude; iv) light curve contamination (Section 2); v) out-of-transit light-curve flux normalization factor. Table 5 gives the prior distributions for all parameters of all models.

**Stars:** In all hypotheses except PLANET, the main star in the CoRoT photometric mask, also called the target star, is modeled with its effective temperature ( $T_{\text{eff}}$ ), surface gravity ( $\log g$ ), and metallicity ( $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ ) with priors from the values obtained in the spectroscopic analysis (Section 2.4, Table 5). In the PLANET hypothesis, the parameters describing the host star are  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ , and stellar density ( $\rho_*$ ), as the latter is constrained by the transit (see Díaz et al 2013); its prior is estimated from  $T_{\text{eff}}$ ,  $\log g$ ,  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ , and the Dartmouth stellar tracks. Other stars in the hypotheses are modeled by their age,  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ , and initial mass. If two or three stars are physically bounded they share the same age and  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$ . The prior for the age and the  $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]$  are uniform distributions covering the full range of the models, except for the upper limit of the age that is limited by the age of the Universe. The prior for the mass comes from the initial mass function for stars of the disk of the Galaxy from Robin et al (2003). The albedo of each star is a free parameter with uniform prior between 0.6 and 1.0 (Claret 2001); see Table 5 for a detailed version of each prior.

**Planets:** In the PLANET hypothesis, the planet is modeled by the radius ratio, and the  $a/R_*$  is computed from  $\rho_*$ , the period, and the mass ratio. In all other hypotheses, the planets are modeled by their mass and radius with uniform priors (Table 5). All planets have the albedo as a free parameter with uniform priors between 0 and 1. We are therefore also exploring the possibility of diluted transiting brown dwarfs, although they are considered as non-emitting bodies.

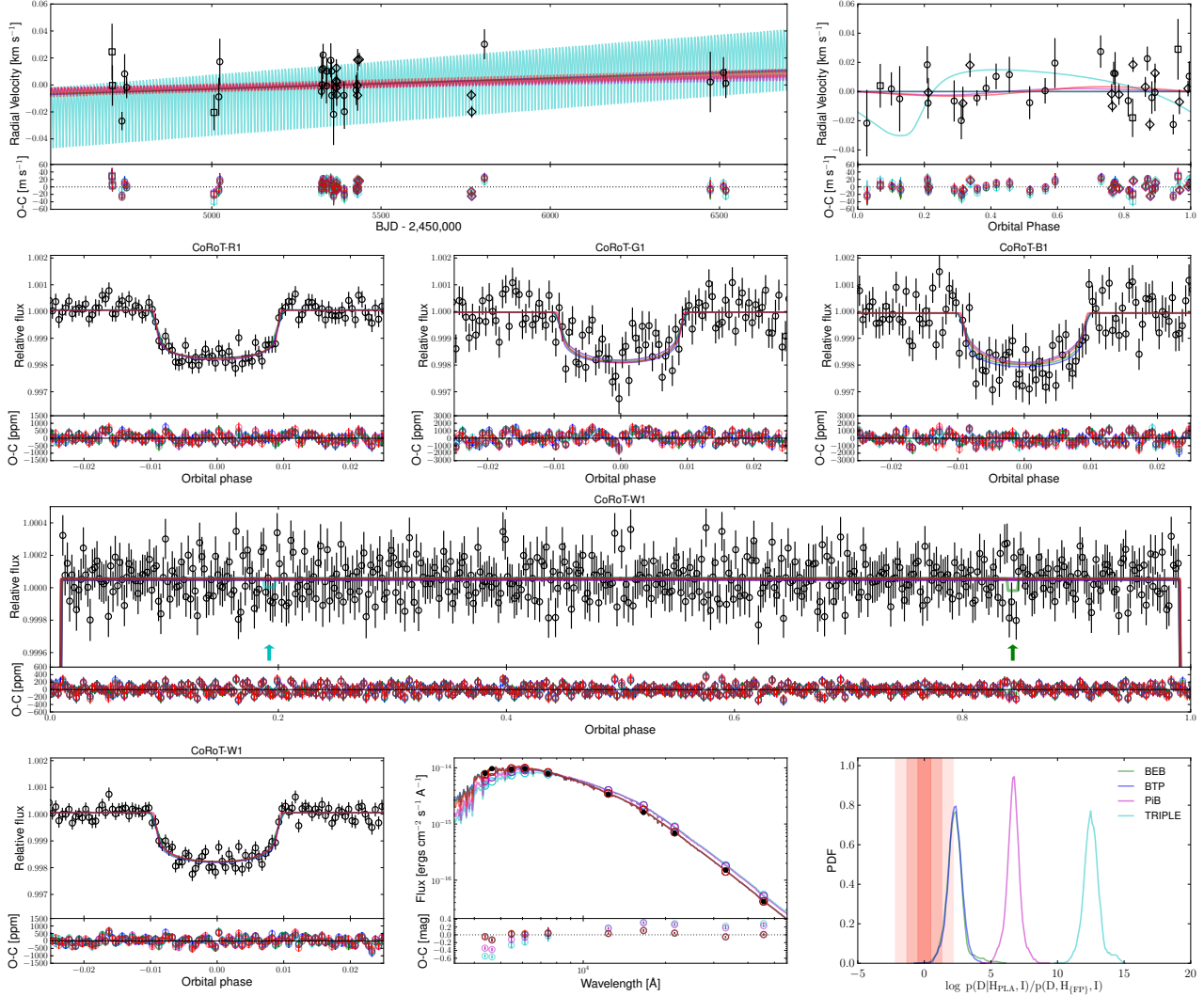
**Orbits and RV:** We used uniform priors for the eccentricity  $e$ , argument of periastron  $\omega$ , and impact parameter  $b$ . The amplitude of the RV in the PLANET scenario is a free parameter with uniform priors, while for other scenarios it is computed from the components' masses and the orbital parameters. A linear drift is fitted in all cases, with uniform prior. The second, wider orbit of the PiB and TRIPLE scenarios is considered to have a period long enough so that the effects in the RV are negligible. Then the velocity of the respective component or couple is a free parameter.

**Distance:** The distance to the target star and the diluted systems is a free parameter with a prior uniform in  $d^2$ , obtained by considering that the stars are uniformly distributed in the sky. The diluted systems are forced to be at least one magnitude fainter than the target star; brighter stars are easily excluded from the current data set. The extinction is modeled using the three-dimensional extinction model of Amôres and Lépine (2005), that depends on Galactic coordinates and distance. We used the extinction law from Fitzpatrick (1999) with  $R_V = 3.1$ .

We have run 50 MCMC chains of  $3 \times 10^5$  steps for each hypothesis. The chains were started at random points drawn from the joint prior distribution, except for the main star in the CoRoT photometric mask whose parameters are started at the most probable value to reduce the burn-in interval.

Figure 4 shows the data with the maximum-posterior model found for each of the hypotheses. Table 3 shows the mode and the 68.3% central confidence interval of the MCMC distributions for the PLANET hypothesis.





**Figure 4.** From top to bottom, and left to right: i) Radial-velocity data set against time, HARPS as open circles, HIRES as open diamonds, SOPHIE as open squares; superimposed is the best-fit model for the five different hypotheses: PLANET (red), BEB (green), BTP (blue), PiB (magenta), and TRIPLE (cyan). The residuals to the models are shown in the bottom plot. ii) Radial-velocity data set against orbital phase (any linear drift subtracted). iii) CoRoT red, green, and blue light curves folded in phase and binned. iv) The out-of-transit light-curve showing the secondaries of the BEB and TRIPLE hypotheses with an arrow. v) The white light curve, plotted for all phases and zoomed around the transit. vi) Spectral energy distributions (solid lines), with the flux integrated in each of the photometric bands (open circles), and observed magnitudes (black dots). vii) Probability distribution function for the Bayes factor between the planet hypothesis and each false positive hypothesis (see text).

### 3.1 Bayes factor

To compute the Bayes factor, PASTIS estimates the evidence with the truncated posterior-mixture estimation (TPM, Tuomi & Jones 2012). TPM is known to exhibit some issues concerning the estimation of the Bayes factor. Mainly, it does not penalise models sufficiently for each extra parameter. However, this gives a conservative odds ratio in favour of the planet, which is the model with fewer parameters.

The distribution of the Bayes factors are shown on Figure 4 (bottom right). On this plot, the shaded areas indicate the regions where the support of one hypothesis over the other is considered "Inconclusive", "Positive", "Strong", and "Very strong" (from darker to lighter region, and finally white), according to the criteria of Kass and Raftery (1995). The mode and the 68.3% central confidence interval of the probability distribution function of the

Bayes factor are given in Table 4 for each scenario compared to the PLANET scenario.

The PLANET hypothesis is  $200, 209, 5.0 \times 10^6$ , and  $2.8 \times 10^{12}$  times more probable than the BEB, BTP, PiB and TRIPLE hypotheses respectively, based only on the data and parameter priors. The TRIPLE and PiB hypotheses are rejected by the SED data, because such systems would have different relative magnitudes, especially in the blue; the diluted scenarios, however, are not excluded by the data, at this point.

### 3.2 Hypotheses priors ratios

The hypotheses prior ratios are computed as described in Díaz et al (2014, Sect. 5). Basically, we simulated the stellar field around the target using the Besançon Galactic model (Robin et al 2003), and computed the probability that an unseen blended star lies within a

**Table 3.** Results of the PLANET hypothesis fit.

Planet orbital period, $P$ [days] <sup>•</sup>	$9.75598 \pm 0.00011$
Midtransit time, $T_c$ [BJD] <sup>•</sup>	$2454598.42014^{+0.00099}_{-0.00051}$
$cov(P, T_c)$ [days <sup>2</sup> ]	$-4.28e-8$
Orbital eccentricity, $e$ <sup>•</sup>	$0.077^{+0.30}_{-0.042}, < 0.25, < 0.78^{\dagger}$
Argument of periastron, $\omega$ [deg] <sup>•</sup>	$210^{+70}_{-30}$
Orbit inclination, $i$ [deg]	$89.749^{+0.032}_{-0.90}$
Orbital semi-major axis, $a$ [AU]	$0.0920 \pm 0.0014$
semi-major axis / radius of the star, $a/R_{\star}$	$17.30^{+1.3}_{-0.57}$
Radius ratio, $k = R_p/R_{\star}$ <sup>•</sup>	$0.03927^{+0.00060}_{-0.00037}$
Transit duration [h]	$4.492 \pm 0.039$
Impact parameter, $b$ <sup>•</sup>	$0.012^{+0.33}_{-0.033}$
Radial velocity linear drift [m s <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•</sup>	$2.2^{+2.1}_{-3.2}$
Radial velocity semi-amplitude, $K$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•</sup>	$3.7 \pm 3.9, < 5.6, < 15.2^{\dagger}$
Contamination CoRoT-W, $C_{CoRoT-W}$ [%] <sup>•</sup>	$1.72 \pm 0.57$
Contamination CoRoT-R, $C_{CoRoT-R}$ [%] <sup>•</sup>	$1.09^{+0.18}_{-0.43}$
Contamination CoRoT-G, $C_{CoRoT-G}$ [%] <sup>•</sup>	$4.4^{+1.5}_{-1.0}$
Contamination CoRoT-B, $C_{CoRoT-B}$ [%] <sup>•</sup>	$5.4 \pm 1.4$
Offset SOPHIE, $\Delta RV_{SOPHIE}$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•,§</sup>	$-31.921^{+0.017}_{-0.027}$
Offset HIRES, $\Delta RV_{HIRES}$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•,§</sup>	$-0.9638 \pm 0.0047$
Offset HARPS, $\Delta RV_{HARPS}$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•,§</sup>	$-31.8910^{+0.0039}_{-0.0024}$
Jitter CoRoT-W, $\sigma_{CoRoT-W}$ [mmag] <sup>•</sup>	$0.9238^{+0.0097}_{-0.020}$
Jitter CoRoT-R, $\sigma_{CoRoT-R}$ [mmag] <sup>•</sup>	$1.064 \pm 0.022$
Jitter CoRoT-G, $\sigma_{CoRoT-G}$ [mmag] <sup>•</sup>	$2.237^{+0.022}_{-0.038}$
Jitter CoRoT-B, $\sigma_{CoRoT-B}$ [mmag] <sup>•</sup>	$2.348 \pm 0.034$
Jitter SOPHIE, $\sigma_{SOPHIE}$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•</sup>	$15.0^{+46}_{-52}$
Jitter HIRES, $\sigma_{HIRES}$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•</sup>	$10.08^{+6.6}_{-0.90}$
Jitter HARPS, $\sigma_{HARPS}$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ] <sup>•</sup>	$8.9^{+4.2}_{-2.7}$
Jitter SED, $\sigma_{SED}$ [mag] <sup>•</sup>	$0.065^{+0.056}_{-0.018}$
Star effective temperature, $T_{\text{eff}}$ [K] <sup>•</sup>	$5939^{+54}_{-120}$
Star metallicity, [Fe/H] [dex] <sup>•</sup>	$0.170^{+0.070}_{-0.12}$
Star density, $\rho_{\star}$ [ $\rho_{\odot}$ ] <sup>•</sup>	$0.729^{+0.19}_{-0.071}$
Star mass, $M_{\star}$ [ $M_{\odot}$ ]	$1.099 \pm 0.049$
Star radius, $R_{\star}$ [ $R_{\odot}$ ]	$1.136^{+0.038}_{-0.090}$
Deduced stellar surface gravity, $\log g$ [cgs]	$4.361^{+0.065}_{-0.029}$
Age of the star, $t$ [Gyr]	$3.3 \pm 2.0$
Distance of the system, $d$ [pc] <sup>•</sup>	$592^{+25}_{-42}$
Planet mass, $M_p$ [ $M_{\oplus}$ ]	$12.2^{+14}_{-8.7}, < 19.0, < 48.9^{\dagger}$
Planet radius, $R_p$ [ $R_{\oplus}$ ]	$4.88^{+0.17}_{-0.30}$
Planet mean density, $\rho_p$ [ $g\text{ cm}^{-3}$ ]	$0.249^{+1.0}_{-0.097}, < 0.94, < 2.56^{\dagger}$
Planet surface gravity, $\log g_p$ [cgs]	$2.88^{+0.12}_{-0.64}, < 2.89, < 3.30^{\dagger}$
Planet equilibrium temperature*, $T_{eq}$ [K]	$885^{+53}_{-280}$

<sup>•</sup> MCMC jump parameter<sup>†</sup> upper limit at 68.3%, and 99% confidence<sup>§</sup> reference time BJD 2455379\*  $T_{eq} = T_{\text{eff}} (1 - A)^{1/4} \sqrt{\frac{R_{\star}}{2a}}$ , using an albedo  $A = 0$ .**Table 4.** Bayes factor, hypotheses priors, hypotheses priors ratios, odds ratios, and posterior.

Hypothesis ( $j$ )	$\log \frac{p(\text{D} \text{H}_{\text{PLANET}}, \text{I})}{p(\text{D} \text{H}_j, \text{I})}$	$p(\text{H}_j \text{I})$	$\frac{p(\text{H}_{\text{PLANET}} \text{I})}{p(\text{H}_j \text{I})}$	$\log \frac{p(\text{H}_{\text{PLANET}} \text{D}, \text{I})}{p(\text{H}_j \text{D}, \text{I})}$	$\log p(\text{H}_j \text{D}, \text{I})$
PLANET	0	$1.2 \times 10^{-8}$	1	0	$-0.000138^{8.3e-5}_{2.5e-4}$
BEB	$2.30^{+0.37}_{-0.71}$	$3.2 \times 10^{-10}$	37	$3.87^{+0.37}_{-0.71}$	$-3.77 \pm 0.54$
BTP	$2.32^{+0.40}_{-0.64}$	$1.6 \times 10^{-10}$	72	$4.18^{+0.40}_{-0.64}$	$-4.10 \pm 0.53$
PiB	$6.70^{+0.33}_{-0.58}$	$2.6 \times 10^{-9}$	4.5	$7.35^{+0.33}_{-0.58}$	$-7.31 \pm 0.60$
TRIPLE	$12.44 \pm 0.56$	$2.0 \times 10^{-9}$	5.8	$13.20 \pm 0.56$	$-13.24 \pm 0.56$



certain distance of the target, given the NACO contrast curve (section 2.2). The binary properties from Raghavan et al (2010, and references therein) are used to compute the probability that any such contaminating star is an eclipsing binary system; triple system statistics comes from Rappaport et al (2013). The giant planet statistics from Fressin et al (2013) and Bonfils et al (2013) are used to compute the probability that a star in the background hosts a transiting planet. Combining these probabilities, we computed the priors for the BEB and BTP hypotheses. The same sources are used to compute the prior probabilities of the TRIPLE hypothesis, the PLANET hypothesis, and the PiB hypothesis. For the latter, we further assumed that the presence of a planetary companion in orbit around one of the components of a wide-orbit binary is independent of the presence of the stellar companion and we arbitrarily imposed that the period of the stellar pair is at least 10 times the period of the planet around the secondary. If one includes NACO observing constraints into the prior calculation for the PiB scenario, one gets a PiB probability value about twice smaller than when one does not, and both values are compatible within errors. This scenario having a seven orders of magnitude lower probability than the PLANET scenario, we conclude that, in the case analyzed here, taking into account the NACO constraint into the non-diluted PiB scenario is not necessary. Same reasoning applies for the TRIPLE scenario. The hypotheses priors and ratios are listed in Table 4.

### 3.3 Odds ratios and planet posterior probability

The odds ratios of the planet hypothesis and each false positive hypothesis is computed as the product of the Bayes factor and the hypothesis prior ratio. The results are plotted in Figure 5 (left panel) and listed in Table 4 for each hypothesis. The odds ratio between the PLANET hypothesis and any false positive hypothesis is  $\log_{10}(p(\text{PLANET}|I; D)/p(\text{FP}|I; D)) = 3.50 \pm 0.46$ , where FP is the hypothesis that the candidate is any false positive, independently of its kind. Figure 5 (middle panel) shows the distribution of the odds ratio. Around 99.24% (resp. 96.58 %) of the mass of the distribution is above 150 (resp. 370. i.e. the inverse probability of being outside  $3 - \sigma$  in a normal distribution).

Under the assumption that the set of hypotheses tested is complete, and that the sum of the posterior probabilities is, therefore, one, the odds ratio can be recast to obtain the posterior probability of the planetary hypothesis. The resulting distribution is shown in Figure 5 (right panel). The planet hypotheses posterior probability is larger than 0.994 (resp. 0.976) with 99.0% (resp. 99.9%) confidence. The mode of the distribution is 0.999856.

Hypothesis priors alone showed that the planet scenario is the most likely solution, but with only a small advantage, as the planet/FP ratio ranges from 4 to 72. The scenarios favored by priors are, however, the one most easily discarded by the data (PiB and TRIPLE). Final odds ratios range between 1400 and  $10^{13}$  in favor of the planet scenario. The most likely scenario after the planetary system is a BEB, at least 1400 times less probable.

We conclude that, based on current data and prior knowledge, CoRoT-22 b is validated as a planet with a very high degree of confidence.

## 4 CONCLUSION

In this paper, we report the discovery of a transiting planetary system, CoRoT-22. The mass of the planet could not be measured

through Doppler measurements. With the decreasing size of transiting candidates, and the faintness of their parent stars, as provided by the photometric space missions CoRoT and *Kepler*, such situations have been increasingly common. Most transiting candidates will have to be identified with additional means than the detection of the Keplerian motion, as already stated by, e.g. Torres et al (2011).

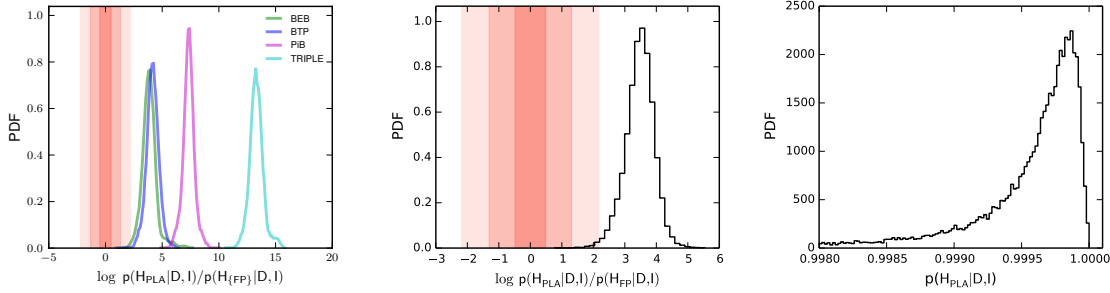
The full Bayesian analysis of the available data and models has been applied to CoRoT-22 b using PASTIS (Díaz et al 2014). This analysis has allowed quantifying the odds ratio between the planet scenarios and other false positive configurations, including hypothesis priors; it is larger than 1000, in strong support of the planet scenario. While some scenarios are rejected by the data, others are unfavored by hypothesis priors, and the consistent combination of these factors finally excludes false positive scenarios with a high level of confidence. More precisely, the role of 1) SED analyses (exclude PiB and TRIPLE), 2) adaptive optics imaging (combined with hypothesis priors, excludes BEB and BTP), and 3) radial velocity measurements (exclude undiluted binary, and constrain all other scenarios) has been major. The colored information of CoRoT offered little additional constraints for the resolution of the system and does not exclude one in particular.

Interestingly, CoRoT-22 b lies in the "radius valley" of the distribution of planetary radii (as known in May 2014). This valley corresponds to a gap in the 4-8  $R_{\oplus}$  range in the *Kepler* sample (Howard et al 2012; Marcy et al 2014; Rowe et al 2014), although the detection is 98% complete in the radius-period bin corresponding to CoRoT-22 b (Petigura et al 2013). Most of the objects that *Kepler* has detected are smaller than 3 Earth radii. The period of CoRoT-22 b, however, coincides with the peak period for transiting planets of less than 0.5 Jupiter radius; it is not an exotic object regarding its orbital distance, with respect with the population of planets known today.

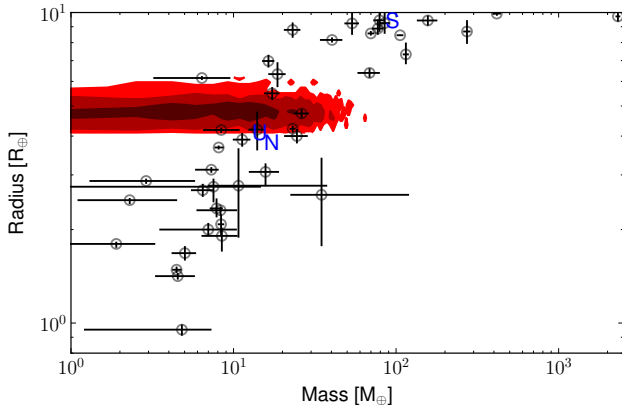
In the family of planets confirmed or validated from the CoRoT mission, CoRoT-22 b is the second smallest in size, after CoRoT-7 b. There are  $\sim 20$  additional candidates in this size range or smaller, that await further observations and analyses (Deleuil et al, in prep). For some of them, however, the magnitude of the star will prevent a scenario validation, because follow-up observations were not possible with current instrumentation, too time consuming, or not conclusive. In particular, adaptive optics imaging, that turned out to be critical in validating CoRoT-22 b, is available, or gives strong enough constraints, for a subset of these candidates (Guenther et al 2013). Also, even if radial-velocity observations were conducted on all promising candidates, and rejected grazing binaries in most cases (except fast rotators and hot stars), they usually give weak upper limits on the companion mass. Observed constraints differ from case to case, and only in a few cases are they significant enough to discard all false positives with strong confidence. PASTIS analyses will thus provide validation for only a handful of them (Díaz et al, in prep).

Table 3 finally summarizes the parameters of the system. The radius of the candidate planet is  $4.88^{+0.17}_{-0.39} R_{\oplus}$ , while its mass is less than 49  $M_{\oplus}$  at  $3 - \sigma$ . This gives a density that is either compatible with the one of the Solar System gas giant planets, or, at maximum, between the density of Neptune and Mars. This parameter, and thus, the nature of the planet, is thus only loosely constrained. The planetary equilibrium temperature is  $\sim 900\text{K}$ .

Figure 6 shows how CoRoT-22 b compares with other known transiting planets. In this radius range, other characterized planets tend to have a mass in the higher range of possible values for CoRoT-22 b. These other planets in the radius range of CoRoT-



**Figure 5.** From left to right: Odds ratios between the PLANET and the false positives hypotheses. Odds ratio between the PLANET hypothesis and any false positive hypothesis. Posterior probability of the PLANET hypothesis.



**Figure 6.** Mass-radius of transiting extrasolar planets with measured radius and mass. Saturn, Uranus, and Neptune are labeled. The red shaded area shows CoRoT-22 b.

22 b either show TTVs (Kepler-11 and 18 systems) or have parent stars 4 magnitude brighter (HAT-P-11), which eases the RV observations. In order to derive the mass of CoRoT-22 b in the future, intensive RV campaigns with Keck-HIRES and/or HARPS should be devoted, with a couple of measurements per night for one or two months. The future instrument VLT-ESPRESSO should also more easily detect the Keplerian motion of a few  $\text{m s}^{-1}$  due to such planets, thanks to a larger collecting area and exquisite RV precision.

Modeling the internal structure of a giant planet without real mass constraint cannot be properly done. In addition, the radius of CoRoT-22 b is close to the radius of Kepler-87 c and CoRoT-8 b, which have masses differing by a factor 10. Maybe the slightly enhanced metallicity of CoRoT-22 ( $[\text{Fe}/\text{H}]=0.17$ ) will direct the solution towards a large core mass, but only further RV observations will be able to settle to mean planet density, in a domain where very few planets are yet fully characterized. In the future, TESS and PLATO missions will help discovering more planets in this radius/period range, and the ground-based complementary observations of the candidates will allow to get their mass with great accuracy, since the target stars will be much brighter than CoRoT typical targets. The underlying physics of this diversity in bulk densities will then be better understood.

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**Table 5.** Parameter prior distributions for all models.

Parameter	Prior	Scenarios
Host/Target:		
Star density, $\rho_\star$ [ $\rho_\odot$ ]	AN(0.49, 0.11, 0.27)	Planet
Star surface gravity, $\log g$ [cgs]	N(4.3, 0.1)	BEB, BTP, PiB, Triple
Star effective temperature, $T_{\text{eff}}$ [K]	N(5780, 100)	All
Star metallicity, [Fe/H] [dex]	N(0.21, 0.10)	All
Distance of the system, d [pc]	PL(2, 5, 6000)	All
Radial velocity linear drift [m s <sup>-1</sup> year <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(-0.0001, 0.0001)	All
$v \sin i_\star$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	TUN(4.0, 1.5, 0, 100)	All
Star albedo	U(0.6, 1.0)	All
Orbit:		
Planet orbital period, $P$ [days]	N(9.75607, 0.00018)	All
Mid-transit/eclipse time, $T_c$ [BJD]	N(2454598.42020, 0.0014)	All
Orbital eccentricity, $e$	U(0, 1)	All
Argument of periastron, $\omega$ [deg]	U(0, 360)	All
Impact parameter, $b$	U(0, 1) or U(0.0, 1.5)	Planet or BEB, BTP, PiB, Triple
Primary star:		
Star mass, $M_\star$ [ $M_\odot$ ]	DPL(-1.55, -2.70, 1.0, 0.1, 30)	BEB, BTP, PiB, Triple
Age, $t$ [Gyr]	U(6.3e-7, 13.8)	BEB, BTP
Star metallicity, [Fe/H] [dex]	U(-2.5, 0.5)	BEB, BTP
Distance of the system, d [pc]	PL(2, 1, 20000)	BEB, BTP
Star albedo	U(0.6, 1.0)	BEB, BTP, PiB, Triple
$v \sin i$	U(0, 30)	BEB, BTP, PiB, Triple
Systemic velocity	U(-200, 200)	BEB, BTP, PiB, Triple
Secondary star:		
Star mass, $M_\star$ [ $M_\odot$ ]	DPL(-1.55, -2.70, 1.0, 0.1, 30)	BEB, Triple
Star albedo	U(0.6, 1.0)	BEB, Triple
$v \sin i_\star$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(0, 30)	BEB, Triple
Planet:		
Albedo	U(0, 1)	Planet, BTP, PiB
Radial velocity semi-amplitude, $K$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(0.0, 0.1)	Planet
Radius ratio, $k = R_p/R_\star$	J(1e-10, 0.1)	Planet
Planet mass, $M_p$ [ $M_\oplus$ ]	U(0, 90)	BTP, PiB
Planet radius, $R_p$ [ $R_\oplus$ ]	J(0.09, 2.1)	BTP, PiB
Contamination CoRoT-W [%]	N(0.019, 0.005)	All
Normalization CoRoT-W	U(0.999, 1.001)	All
Jitter CoRoT-W [mmag]	U(0.0, 0.01)	All
Contamination CoRoT-R [%]	N(0.010, 0.003)	All
Normalization CoRoT-R	U(0.999, 1.001)	All
Jitter CoRoT-R [mmag]	U(0.0, 0.012)	All
Contamination CoRoT-G [%]	N(0.041, 0.013)	All
Normalization CoRoT-G	U(0.999, 1.001)	All
Jitter CoRoT-G [mmag]	U(0.0, 0.022)	All
Contamination CoRoT-B [%]	N(0.062, 0.014)	All
Normalization CoRoT-B	U(0.999, 1.001)	All
Jitter CoRoT-B [mmag]	U(0.0, 0.023)	All
Offset HIRES, $\Delta RV_{\text{HIRES}}$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(-1.02, -0.9)	All
Jitter HIRES, $\sigma_{\text{HIRES}}$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(0.0, 0.034)	All
Offset HARPS, $\Delta RV_{\text{HARPS}}$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(-31.92, -31.86)	All
Jitter HARPS, $\sigma_{\text{HARPS}}$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(0.0, 0.068)	All
Offset SOPHIE, $\Delta RV_{\text{SOPHIE}}$ [km s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(-32.06, -31.75)	All
Jitter SOPHIE, $\sigma_{\text{SOPHIE}}$ [m s <sup>-1</sup> ]	U(0, 0.1)	All
Jitter SED, $\sigma_{\text{SED}}$ [mag]	U(0, 1)	All

U(xmin, xmax) = Uniform distribution between xmin and xmax;

N(mu, sigma) = Normal distribution with mean  $\mu$  and standard deviation  $\sigma$ AN(mu,  $\sigma_-$ ,  $\sigma_+$ ) = Asymmetric normal distribution, with different widths at each side of mean value.

J(xmin, xmax) = Jeffreys distribution (log-flat) between xmin and xmax

TUN(mu, sigma, xmin, xmax) = Normal distribution in the interval [xmin, xmax]

PL(alpha, xmin, xmax) = power law with coefficient alpha, defined in the interval [xmin, xmax]

DPL(alpha, beta, x0, xmin, xmax) = A combination of two power law distributions, with coefficients alpha and beta, defined between [xmin, x0], and [x0, xmax], respectively.

All distributions are normalised to unity.

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